

REMARKS

Claims 31-47 and 58-69 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-30 and 48-57 remain pending in the application.

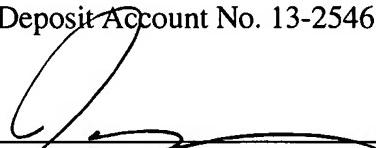
The Office Action required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-30 and 48-57, drawn to a device for sealing and creating an anastomosis in a blood vessel, classified in class 606, subclass 151.
- II. Claims 31-47, drawn to a seal for sealing a blood vessel, classified in class 606, subclass 213.
- III. Claims 58-69, drawn to a method of constructing an anastomosis, classified in class 606, subclass 153.

In response, applicants elect Invention I, Claims 1-30 and 48-57, for prosecution. Claims 31-47 and 58-69 have been canceled without prejudice. Support for this amendment is clearly found in the application as originally filed. No new matter is presented. If the Examiner comes to believe that a telephone conversation may be useful in addressing any remaining open issues in this case, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned agent at 763-391-9867. A supplemental information disclosure statement has been filed with this response. Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-2546 the fee of \$180.00 which is required for the information disclosure statement. Please charge any additional required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Date 11/28/06

By _____


James R. Keogh
Reg. No. 44,824
MEDTRONIC, INC.
710 Medtronic Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55432
Tel. 763.391.9867
Fax. 763.391.9668
Customer No.: 27581